

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 5, 6, 8-12, 14, and 15 for format only. Claim 16 is amended for format and to emphasize that the claim is directed to statutory subject matter. No new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims at least in light of the following remarks.

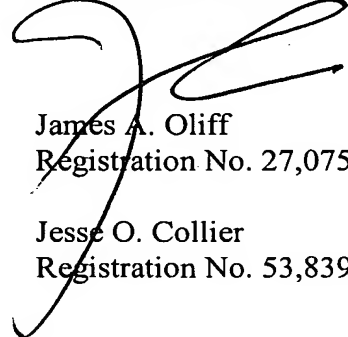
Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly non-statutory. By this Amendment, claim 16 is amended to even further emphasize that it is directed to statutory subject matter (see MPEP 2106.01(I)). Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1-16 are provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-32 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/807,233. This rejection is mooted by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith, which disclaims any term of the patent to issue on the present application in excess of the term of the patent to issue on copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/807,233. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicant earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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